

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

ACDA-19 MC-02 IGA-02 EB-11 TRSE-00 NIC-01 SAJ-01

AID-20 RSR-01 EUR-25 INRE-00 /164 W
----- 007377

P R 232225 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4878

INFO USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L L I M A 1 8 9 4

E. O. 11652/ GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, PE, UR

SUBJ: PROBABLE SOVIET AIRCRAFT SALE TO PERUVIAN AIR FORCE

REF: DAO MSG IR 6 876 0048 73(DTG 231410 Z MAR 73)

CHMAAG TO DOD NOTAL MSG 222031 Z MAR 73, LIMA 149

1. MAAG AND DAO REFTELS INDICATE PROBABLE IMMINENT DECISION WITHIN FAP ON PURCHASE OF NEW AIRCRAFT. BECAUSE OF PROBLEM REPRESENTED BY FMS SUSPENSION AND NON- AVAILABILITY GFAE COMPONENTS FOR A-37 AND F-5 E AIRCRAFT, IT IS PROBABLE THAT THE FAP WILL TURN TO THE MIG 21 ONE AND TWO SEAT VERSIONS FOR THEIR REQUIREMENTS. THERE IS ALSO NO DOUBT THAT THE FAP WOULD PREFER THE US PLANES BUT , GIVEN THE GFAE COMPONENT PROBLEM, AS WELL AS NEEDS FOR ON- GOING SPARES AND THE VERY COMPETITIVE MIG PRICE OF 1.4 MILLION RUBLES AT 3 PERCENT INTEREST FOR TEN YEARS, OUR CHANCES OF SUPPLYING THE FAP NEEDS ARE SLIM INDEED.

2. WE CONSIDER THAT THE SALE BY THE SOVIET UNION OF SUCH A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT TO PERU MUST BE VIEWED AS CONTRARY TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY INTEREST.

3. THERE IS NO NEED TO ENUMERATE IN THIS MESSAGE ALL THE
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WELL- KNOWN OBJECTIONS TO INVOKING THOSE WAIVER PROVISIONS OF THE PELLY AMENDMENT. THE QUESTION AT ISSUE IS WHETHER OR NOT THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH BELIEVES IT CAN JUSTIFY TO THE CONGRESS WAIVER ACTION TAKEN ON THE BASIS OF PREVENTING FURTHER SOVIET PENETRATION OF THE AREA AND, INCIDENTALLY, AT THE SAME TIME MAINTAIN OUR MARKET FOR MILITARY AIRCRAFT IN PERU, AS WELL AS THE GOOD RELATIONS WHICH WE STILL HAVE WITH THE FAP. AS STATED IN LIMA 149, THE COUNTRY TEAM FULLY RECOMMENDS THAT FMS SUSPENSION BE LIFTED ON THE BASIS THAT THIS IS IN OUR NATIONAL SECURITY INTEREST.

BELCHER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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